

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 10398 071229Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
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R 071221Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9162
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 10398

USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PEPR, PINT, UG, GW, US
SUBJECT: UGANDA: AMIN'S VIEWS ON THE WEST

FRG AMBASSADOR FROEWIS HAS SENT THE FOLLOWING REPORT
FROM KAMPALA ON WHAT HE SEES AS AMIN'S DISAPPOINTMENT
WITH THE WEST.

BEGIN TEXT: A MILITARY SPOKESMAN DECLARED ON MAY 24
THAT PRESIDENT AMIN HAD BEEN INFORMED BY UGANDANS IN
EXILE THAT THE AMERICANS, BRITISH AND ISRAELIS PLANNED
TO INVADE UGANDA WITH THE HELP OF FRENCH AND BELGIAN
PARATROOPERS IN SHABA. THE WESTERN TROOPS IN SHABA WERE
HIGHWAYMEN AND CRIMINALS, AND SIMILAR TYPES WERE EAR-
MARKED FOR COMMITMENT IN UGANDA.

IN A SPEECH HE GAVE ON 'AFRICA DAY' (MAY 25), AMIN AC-
CUSED THE US, UK AND OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES OF DENYING
UGANDA THE ARMS AND EQUIPMENT IT NEEDED TO DEFEND ITSELF,
WHEREAS THE RUSSIANS AND CUBANS WERE GOOD FRIENDS AND
PROVIDED UGANDA WITH THE REQUIRED MILITARY GOODS.
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ASSESSMENT: AMIN, WHO IN RECENT MONTHS HAD REPEATED-
LY CRITICIZED THE SOVIET UNION AND CUBA, HAS AGAIN FOUND
FRIENDLY WORDS FOR THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS. WE ATTRIBUTE
THIS TO THE FACT THAT HIS CONCILIATORY GESTURES HAVE
PRODUCED SO LITTLE REACTION IN THE WESTERN COUNTRIES.

HE IS ESPECIALLY DISAPPOINTED WITH THE UNITED STATES WHICH HE VIEWS AS STRANGLING ITS COMMERCIAL EXCHANGE WITH UGANDA WITHOUT ASCERTAINING WHETHER CONDITIONS IN UGANDA (PUBLIC SECURITY AND ORDER, RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS) HAVE NOT FUNDAMENTALLY IMPROVED.

BUT AMIN IS ALSO DISAPPOINTED WITH THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY WHICH--IN VIOLATION OF THE LOME CONVENTION--HAVE NOT BEEN READY TO IMPLEMENT THE PROJECT AID IN THE AMOUNT OF 73 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT ENVISAGED IN THEIR SKELETON AGREEMENT WITH UGANDA.

POSSIBLY, AMIN IS ALSO DISAPPOINTED WITH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WHICH, IN BILATERALIZING THE CAPITAL AID PROMISED THE EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY, HAS THUS FAR REFUSED TO RELEASE UGANDA'S SHARE, AMOUNTING TO DM 6.5 MILLION. FROEWIS. END TEXT
STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

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